

THE OREGON SCOUT.

AMOS K. JONES EDITOR.

City and County Official Paper.

Friday, November 4, 1887.

THE ELECTION.

Next Tuesday the people of this state will be called upon to decide by ballot as to whether the salaries of the State officers shall be raised; as to whether the time of holding the state election shall be changed so as to come on the day of the presidential election; and whether the sale of intoxicating liquors shall be prohibited in this state. The first two proposed amendments are of no vital importance, and no principle affecting the moral or political welfare of the government is involved. They are simply questions of economy, and we are of the opinion that both of them should pass. It is better to pay our officers a salary sufficient to remunerate for the work performed, and liberal enough to induce men of ability to accept the positions. Changing the time of holding the election will save the expense of one campaign every four years. The principal argument against it is that by mixing state and national issues at one election, fraud would be more liable to be practiced to the detriment of the public welfare. This, however, is assuming that the average voter hasn't got sense enough to know what he wants, which, if true, is a sorry travesty upon our citizenship at large. The prohibition question is an important one, and involves principles upon which the very foundation of the government is based. While the liquor traffic is a most gigantic curse, many honest temperance people are undecided as to the best method of dealing with it. If it were known positively what the result of prohibition would be, it might be different with many of them, but the way the matter now stands it will puzzle the most thoughtful. We offer no advice at this time, but trust that every man will carefully study the subject and vote as his best judgment directs, and, whether the result be good, or disastrous, his conscience need not trouble him.

THE CHICAGO ANARCHISTS.

In a few days there will, in all probability, take place an event to which the people of the United States, and more especially the people of the State of Illinois, look forward to as one of the greatest importance to her commonwealth.

On the eleventh day of this month in the great city of Chicago is to take place the execution of seven men,—condemned to pay the just penalty of their crimes by hanging until dead.

These men, if men they may be called, are victims of early vicious training. Born in the old country; bred up in superstition and ignorance with all the vicious influences which surround the low strata of society from which they sprung, incultured and steeped deep into their very souls, they come to America, the "land of the free and the home of the brave," bringing with them their damnable ideas of Anarchism, socialism and communism to breathe it out upon American shores and among American people. They are men whose sense of justice is adverse to the principles of American freedom. Their souls revolt against anything which is high and noble in its aim. Morality is as a loathsome pestilence to them, and in the slime and filth of their blighting and dangerous ideas, hesitate not to redder their hands with the blood of their fellows.

These seven men we expect will die on the eleventh of this month, unless the pardoning power should stretch out its hand and commute their sentence to imprisonment for life.

Already has the fat gone forth from out the secret assemblies of their sympathizing followers, that if these men are hung the blazing fire brand shall go forth on its terrible mission and Chicago shall be laid low in ashes and blackened dust. It is not likely they will catch the Chicago authorities napping, but they need to be closely watched. How far these breeders of discord, of Anarchism and open defiance to the law will be suffered by the people of this great nation, is a question that must assume a tangible shape before long, or the time may come when the lesson learned by procrastination will have been dearly bought. We believe that it is a duty imperative upon both state and general government, that to disobey our laws will call down upon the offender the most decisive action. We do not believe that these blood-thirsty, vicious and damnable scum of the old world should be suffered to belch forth their invectives against our government, either general, state or municipal, and when they do, teach them a lesson of such severity as will command respect in the future.

That their seven devils should be

hung is, we think, the voice of all law-abiding citizens of the state of Illinois. Hang them, by all means hang them! Hang them if the great city of Chicago has to be a blackened pile of smoldering ruins! Hang them if it takes the arms of the government to do it. Not only execute the sentence against these men, but make it so uncomfortable for their adherents that this country will soon be rid of them and their anarchistic influences.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Washington, Oct. 25, 1887.

To the editor of the Oregon Scout.
The Federal Capital is pre-eminently the city of conventions and great public meetings that bring together people from all parts of the greatest nation of the globe. Last week the city had the Landrymen's National Convention, and this week there are two in session at the same time—the Carriage Builders National Association and the National Agricultural Convention. As the latter is the only one of special interest to your readers, I will not enter into the details of the first two.

The Agricultural Convention is called by virtue of an act of the Forty-ninth Congress, and its membership consists of the representatives of all the Agricultural colleges and experimental stations in the United States, the purpose of the meeting being to devise ways and means to improve the methods of farming and thus increase the fertility and productiveness of the agricultural area of the country. And it goes without saying that the discussion of these questions by such a representative and intelligent body—the mutual interchange of views and experiences—will be vastly beneficial to the farmers, veritably the body and sinew of the land, for upon their arduous labors depend the material prosperity and well-being of the whole country.

There is considerable gossip in the political circles of the Capital about the charges of bribery and political treachery brought against Senator McPherson, of New Jersey, by a prominent member of his own party. This man, Little, asserts openly these things of the Senator—the attack occupying fifteen columns in a newspaper. One of the most damaging allegations is that but for the action of the Senator in compassing by bribery the election of Sewell, his republican colleague, the United States senate would have been democratic several years ago. The gauntlet is boldly thrown down and the Senator challenged to a legal contest.

The Virginia state officers have been liberated upon a writ of habeas corpus upon their own recognizance, and the case is set for final hearing in the Supreme court on the first Monday in November. It is the prevailing opinion that the decision of Judge Bond will be affirmed.

Generals Roger A. Fajer and Benjamin F. Butler will bring the cases of the Chicago Anarchists to the attention of the Supreme court the last of this week, with the hope of securing a supersedeas, and remanding the trial to the Illinois courts. Gen. Butler's retainer in this suit is \$11,500, and \$250 a day in addition while engaged upon it.

Mr. Oberly has materially modified his views on the relations of department officials who are members of political clubs to the civil service and his colleague, Mr. Edgerton, takes issue with the original position of the former. The present attitude of the majority of the civil service commission upon this question, I am sorry to say, is far from encouraging to the friends of reform.

The examination of the War Department clerks, under the new civil service rules, which was suspended last summer, has been resumed, and in consequence the clerks in all the other departments are again having their apprehension of going through this dread ordeal aroused, for eventually the revised rules will be applied to all.

There is a serious Cabinet disagreement reported over the Alaskan seal fishery question—Messrs. Bayard and Garland being the disputants—and it is given out that the Secretary of State will resign soon unless his views on this matter are shared by the President. It is true this report has been denied by one of those chiefly concerned, still I believe the rumor is not entirely unfounded. The latest move of the Treasury, in lieu of the continued purchase of bonds, is an order increasing the number of national bank depositaries for Government funds—the object being the diffusion of a few millions of the surplus that is becoming such an intolerable burden both to the administration and the people.

J. H. C.

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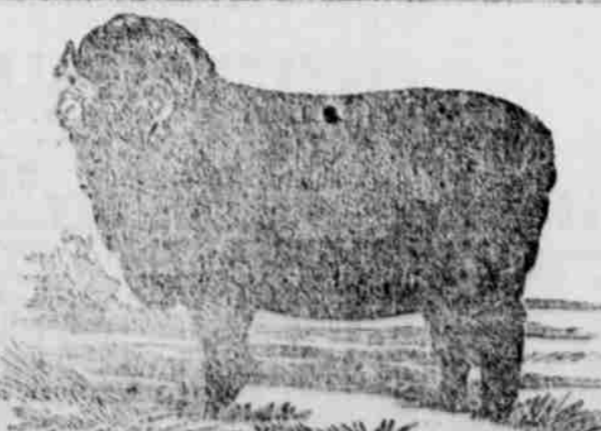
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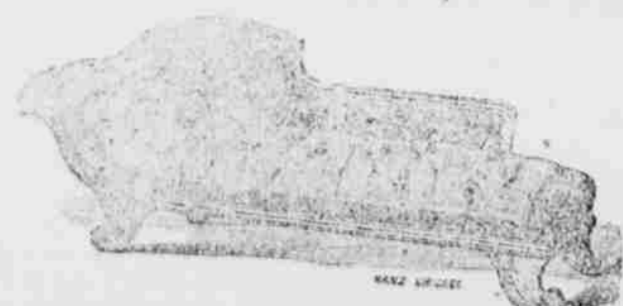
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